BEFORE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Petition For Termination of Probation of LOUIS M. BARBER	?	
	\(\)	No. D-1479
)	N-8809
Respondent.)	

DECISION

The matter came on regularly for hearing before a quorum of the Board of Medical Quality Assurance and Philip J. Hanley, an Administrative Law Judge of the Office of Administrative Hearings, October 15, 1976 in Sacramento, California. Evidence was received and the matter was submitted. After consideration, the Board makes the following decision:

FINDINGS OF FACT

I

Respondent Louis M. Barber was licensed in California in 1949. His license was revoked effective October 25, 1974. Respondent had pleaded guilty to embezzling some \$214,000 in public funds from San Joaquin County. Respondent committed the acts in the period of 1962-1973 while Administrator of County Medical Facilities.

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Respondent was incarcerated for about 20 months at Vacaville. He was released on parole March 7, 1975. His parole was terminated October 9, 1976.

III

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After his release from prison, respondent returned to

the Stockton area. He worked for more than a year as an office manager'in a doctor's office. He has also been employed as the administrator of Oak Park Community Hospital.

IV

Respondent Barber had been a thoracic surgeon as well as San Joaquin County official. Respondent testified, and offered documentary evidence, that he had studied and read in medical fields for hundreds of hours during his imprisonment. Respondent Barber testified the study has continued after his release.

Respondent introduced other documentary and oral evidence that he was professionally competent and acceptable to residents of Stockton.

VI

Respondent's embezzlements were to cover losses in investment undertakings. When investment plans did not work out, creditors several times looked to him as an available solvent debtor, and did not bother with his co-venturers, according to respondent. Embezzlements did not cease until they were detected.

DETERMINATION OF ISSUED

From the foregoing findings, it is determined that it is not in the publice interest that the revoked license be restored to respondent Louis M. Barber either unconditionally or on a probationary basis.

ORDER

The petition to reinstate the revoked license is denied.

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BOARD OF MEDICAL QUALITY ASSURANCE

OF THE STATE OF CALLFORNIA

BARRY WARSHAW, M. D.

Secretary-Treasurer